

Message Text

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAG: PFOR, US, DA

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON PRIME MIISTER JORGENSEN

REF: STATE 272307

SUMMARY: PRIMIN JORGENSEN EXPRESSES APPRECIATION FOR HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO HIM IN WASHINGTON AND BELIEVES THAT CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY SERVED TO STRENGTHEN US-DANISH RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. I PAID MY INITIAL CALL ON PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN NOV. 19. HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM A NORDIC CONFERENCE WHICH FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON. THE PRIME MINISTER'S TOP ASSISTANT, JORGEN GERSING, AND DCM ALSO ATTENDED MEETING.

2. MEETING OPENED WITH JORGENSEN TELLING ME HOW MUCH HE HAD APRECIATED THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. HE SAID THAT THE VISIT TO THE U.S. HAD GONE EXTREMELY WELL AND HAD STRENGTHENED RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. HE FELT THAT THIS IN TURNED AUGURED WELL FOR MY MISSION HERE. THE PRIME MINISTER STATED THAT WHAT HE HAD SAID ABOUT PRESIDENT FORD BEING THE LEADER OF THE WESTERN WORLD CAME FROM HIS HEART. HE THOUGHT HE SPOKE FOR ALL THE DANISH PEOPLE IN STATING IT IN THOSE TERMS.

3. JORGENSEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT HIS TALK WITH THE PRESIDENT
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HAD COVERED A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS IN A GENERAL WAY BUT THAT

HE WAS PARTICULARLY APPRECIATIVE TO HEAR THAT A SOLUTION WAS IN SIGHT TO THE CANNED HAM PROBLEM. WE DISCUSSED BRIEFLY THE DETAILS OF THE SOLUTION, NOTING THE NEED TO KEEP THIS INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL AN ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE IN WASHINGTON AND BRUSSELS. JORGENSEN REMARKED WITH A CHUCKLE THAT THE FIRST QUESTION HE RECEIVED IN DENMARK UPON HIS RETURN FROM WASHINGTON CAME FROM THE DANISH MEAT CUTTERS UNION WHO WANTED TO KNOW THE OUTCOME OF EFFORTS TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE HAM PROBLEM. PRIMIN SAID HE PUT THEM OFF UNTIL LATE NEXT MONTH.

4. WE DISCUSSED BRIEFLY THE RAMBOUILLET CONFERENCE, AND I WAS ABLE TO PASS ON TO HIM COPIES OF THE COMMUNIQUE AND OTHER PERTINENT UNCLASSIFIED DATA.

5. TURNING TO THE LOCAL SCENE, THE PRIMIN WELCOMED ME TO DENMARK AND SAID THAT HE FELT THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT MY TOUR BE SUCCESSFUL, NOT MERELY FOR PERSONAL REASONS, BUT IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. HE WANTED TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE ON THE SAME "WAVE LENGTH" AS HE HAD ESTABLISHED IN WASHINGTON. I TOLD HIM WE WOULD ENDEAVOR TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH HIM, AND THAT I PLANNED TO CONTINUE STUDYING DANISH IN ORDER TO TRAVEL WIDELY IN DENMARK AND TO BE ABLE TO MEET ALL SEGMENTS OF SOCIETY. HE THOUGHT THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA.

6. I GAVE THE PRIME MINISTER THE SECRETARY'S LETTER CONCERNING THE VISIT OF CHAIRMAN HAYS. MR. JORGENSEN RECALLED THAT HE KNEW MR. HAYS WELL AND THAT THEY HAD ESTABLISHED A CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP DURING THE NATO PARLIAMENTARIANS' MEETING IN SEPTEMBER. HE AGREED TO MEET CHAIRMAN HAYS AT 1 P.M. PRIVATELY ON NOV. 25 IN ADDITION TO A LONGER MEETING WHICH IS PLANNED WITH THE DANISH MEMBERS OF THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY GROUP.

7. COMMENT: THERE IS NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT THE PRIMIN WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY HIS RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON AND THAT THE VISIT WILL FACILITATE FUTURE US-DANISH RELATIONSHIP.
DEAN

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